

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 6283

E.O. 11652: GDS

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SUBJ: GREECE-NATO NEGOTIATIONS: FIRST MEETING OF OPEN-END
GROUP

REF: USNATO 6249 DTG 172105Z NOV 75

SUMMARY: FIRST MEETING OF OPEN-ENDED DPC WORKING GROUP
WAS HELD NOVEMBER 18. CHAIRMAN, D/SYG PANSA, OUTLINED PRO-
CEDURES AND INDICATED HE BELIEVED GROUP SHOULD PROMPTLY
BEGIN DIALOGUE WITH GREECE TO CLARIFY OCTOBER 9 GREEK STATE-
MENT. US AND NUMBER OF OTHER REPS SAID GROUP SHOULD
CLARIFY OVERALL DIRECTION OF ITS WORK, AND PERHAPS SEEK
GUIDANCE FROM DPC, BEFORE BEGINNING DIALOGUE WITH GREEKS
WHICH COULD INFLUENCE COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS. PANSA AID
HE WILL CIRCULATE PAPER NOW BEING DEVELOPED BY IS AS
BASIS FOR DISCUSSION AT NEXT MEETING OF
THE GROUP. END SUMMARY.

1. ALL DPC DELEGATIONS EXCEPT PORTUGAL WERE REPRESENTED AT
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INITIAL MEETING OF DPC WORKING GROUP FOR GREEK-NATO NEGOTIATIONS. DEPUTY MC CHAIRMAN COLLADAY AND SHAPE REP (AIR VICE MARSHAL TERRY, UK, ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF FOR PLANS AND POLICY) ALSO ATTENDED. PANSA OPENED MEETING BY SUG-

GESTING THAT PROCEDURES BE FLEXIBLE, THAT THERE BE NO FORMAL AGENDA, AND THAT DECISION SHEETS RATHER THAN SUMMARY RECORDS BE ISSUED FOLLOWING MEETINGS. MEMBERSHIP AND THE TIMING OF WORK MIGHT VARY ACCORDING TO REQUIREMENTS. PANSA SAID THE FIRST TASK, IN HIS VIEW, WAS TO PUT IN MOTION A DIALOGUE WITH GREECE AIMED AT CLARIFYING THE OCTOBER 9 GREEK STATEMENT. THIS CLARIFICATION WOULD PRECEDE NEGOTIATIONS AND WOULD SERVE AS A BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE OPEN-ENDED GROUP TO THE DPC ON FURTHER STEPS. PANSA INDICATED THAT HE WOULD PROVIDE A LIST OF QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION WITH THE GREEKS AND THAT SUCH DISCUSSION WOULD BE CONDUCTED BY PANSA, PERHAPS ASSISTED BY A FEW MEMBERS OF THE GROUP, OR, ALTERNATIVELY, BY INVITING GREEK REPRESENTATIVES TO MEET WITH THE GROUP.

2. LOGAN (UK) WONDERED WHETHER THE GREEKS MIGHT SEND A NEGOTIATING TEAM TO NATO HEADQUARTERS FOR THE DISCUSSIONS. HE EXPRESSED SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT TRYING TO SEPARATE THE PROCESS OF CLARIFICATION FROM NEGOTIATIONS AND COMMENTED AS A BASIS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION WITHIN THE GROUP THE MEMORANDUM ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH GREECE THAT MC CHAIRMAN HILL-NORTON FORWARDED TO THE SYG ON 24 OCTOBER. (THIS MEMORANDUM, CMC-104-75, WAS TRANSMITTED DACOM BY USDEL MC TO JCS WITH REQUEST THAT COPY BE FORWARDED TO ERU/RPM IN STATE. IT HAS BEEN CIRCULATED TO MC REPS BUT NOT YET FORMALLY PROVIDED TO DPC. THE MEMO CATEGORIZES THE POINTS IN THE OCTOBER 9 GREEK STATEMENT ACCORDING TO URGENCY AND ALSO ACCORDING TO DIFFICULTY OF RESOLUTION. IT ASKS A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ABOUT EACH OF THE GREEK POINTS. COMMENT: WHILE THESE QUESTIONS ILLUSTRATE ELEMENTS AND PROBLEMS IN GREECE-NATO RELATIONS, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD NOT BE USEFUL TO PUT THIS LIST OF QUESTIONS TO THE GREEKS.)

3. ALP (TURKEY) SAID THE FIRST TASK FOR THE GROUP SHOULD BE TO TAKE STOCK OF THE OVERALL SITUATION INCLUDING POINTS RAISED IN EARLIER GREEK AND TURKISH STATEMENTS. HE SAID A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS REGARDING GREECE'S RELATIONS WITH NATO
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WERE INTERCONNECTED AND THE GROUP SHOULD DEVELOP PRIORITIES FOR DEALING WITH THEM. ALP RECALLED THAT TURKEY HAD EXPRESSED PARTICULAR CONCERN ABOUT COMMUNICATIONS, OVER FLIGHTS, AIR DEFENSE, AND EXERCISES WHILE THESE ISSUES COULD BE EXAMINED IN THE CONTEXT OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH GREECE, TURKEY WOULD NOT WANT ACTION ON SOME PROBLEMS, SUCH AS NADGE, TO BE DELAYED INDEFINITELY IF, AS APPEARS POSSIBLE, THE NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE FOR OVER A YEAR.

4. STRKEATOR (US), SPEAKING PERSONALLY, SUGGESTED WORK OF GROUP BE GUIDED BY OBJECTIVE OF PROMOTING FULL RETURN OF GREECE TO MILITARY PARTICIPATION IN NATO. HE BELIEVED THE GROUP SHOULD ASSESS THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE GREEK STATEMENTS

AND RELEVANT PARCTICAL DETAILS BEFORE TAKING ANY DECISIONS ON INITIATING TALKS WITH THE GREEKS. STREATOR SAID IT MIGHT BE ADVISALBLE TO DEAL WITH THE ISSUES INVOLVED AS A PACKAGE OR, ON THE OTHER AHND, TO BREAK OUT SOME ISSUES FOR EARLY DISCUSSION AFTER WE SEE HOW THEY FIT TOGEHTER. HE EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR FURTHER ANALYSIS BEFORE DECIDING ON NEXT STEPS WITH THE GREEKS.

5. FERRARI(ITALY) NOTED THE POLITICAL DIMENSION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, POSSIBILITY OF A REVERSAL IN THE GREEK POSITION IF PROGRESS IS MADE ON CYPRUS, AND THE ADVISABILITY OF NOT PRESSING THE GREEKS TO MOVE TOO FAST. AS FAR AS ITALY WAS CONCERNED, THE MOST URGENT PROBLEMS WERE AIR DEFENSE IN THE SOUTHERN REGION AND GREEK CONTRIBUTION TO NADGE.

6. CANDIAN, FRG, AND BELGIAN REPS ALSO COMMENTED BREIFLY ON PROCEDURAL ISSUES. PANSAS CONCLUDED THAT HE SHOULD DEVLLOP A LIST OF POSSIBLE QUESTIONS TO BE PUT TO THE GREEKS AND THAT AT ITS NEXT MEETING THE GROUP SHOULD DECIDE WHETHER TO REQUEST CLARIFICATION OF THE GREEK POSITION THROUGH THE CHAIRMAN OR BY INVITING THE GREEKS TO MEET WITH THE GROUP. LOGAN SAID THE GROUP SHOULD HAVE A CLEAR IDEA OF THE DIRECTION IF ITS WORK, AND FURTHER GUIDANCE FROM THE DPC BEFORE ADDRESSING QUESTIONS TO THE GREEKS. STREATOR AGREED. HE NOTED THAT GREECE-NATO DISCUSSIONS TOUCHED ON SENSITIVE ISSUES, INCLUDING BILATERAL US-GREEK NEGOTIATIONS, AND SAID THE US WOULD WISH TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY WHAT THE DPC SHOULD SAY TO THE GREEKS BEFORE AGREEING TO INITIATIVE
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DIALOGUE. PANSAS NOTED THESE VIEWS, AND SAID THE GROUP WOULD MEET AGAIN FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON HOW TO PROCEED AFTER THE IS COMPLETES WORK ON A PAPER REGARDING GREECE-NATO NEGOTIATIONS WHICH PANSAS HOPED TO BE ABLE TO CIRCULATE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

7. COMMENT: PANSAS APPEARED TO HAVE FIRMLY IN MIND THAT THE GROUP SHOULD INITIATE A DIALOGUE WITH THE GREEKS TO CLARIFY THEIR OPENING POSITION. OUR EFFORT, REINFORCED IN SUBSEQUENT PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH PANSAS, WAS DIRECTED AT MAKING SURE THAT THE GROUP TAKE NO PRECIPITOUS ACTION THAT WOULD LIMIT OPTIONS FOR THE US IN GUIDING GREECE-NATO NEGOTIATIONS.BRUCE

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